

LABOR - PROGRESSIVE PARTY

- SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE -

- 1777 QUEBEC ST. - REGINA, SASK. -

EDUCATIONAL BULLETIN ON CONVENTION MATERIALS

The reports of our provincial convention should be carefully studied by all our Party comrades.

Over a period of time every comrade in the club should read both the political report and the mimeographed booklet containing the resolutions and the reports of the panels. Doing this our comrades will have a much better idea what should be done to build and strengthen the influence of the Party in every community.

We would suggest that the educational discussion at the next one or two club meetings should be based on this convention material. The main resolution which is the first resolution in the mimeographed booklet can be read out, and will provide the basis for a good discussion. At least the leading comrades should before the meeting read over the political report which deals much more fully with the points raised in the main resolution. Thus the leading comrades will be able to answer the questions of the club members.

The main thing that our comrades must clearly understand is the question of our relationships with the CCF and what we mean by the term "united front". Here is some other material you can and should read to help you understand this better.

"FOR PEACE, PROGRESS, AND SOCIALISM" - The reports to the last National Convention of the Party. All of Comrade Buck's speech is very good, and should be read, but we would particularly suggest that someone should read out in the Club meeting the section starting at the bottom of page 46 and going on to the top of page 48, dealing with the question of unity with the CCF.

"THE LPP AND POSTWAR CANADA" - the report of the National Committee in August, 1945, also has some good material for study, particularly pages 22 to 29.

For a really thorough understanding of what is meant by the United Front, the comrades should read the "UNITED FRONT AGAINST FASCISM", which is the famous report given by Georgi Dimitroff (now Premier of Bulgaria), to the 7th World Congress of the Communist International in 1935.

We are also sending you some material on the question of the united front which can be read over in the club and should further help the discussion.

Here are some questions which we suggest the comrades try to answer in the discussion:

1. What are the main dangers facing the people of Saskatchewan today?
2. Around what issues can the people of Saskatchewan be united?
3. Is the CCF government a socialist government? If not, why not?
4. What are the main weaknesses of the Saskatchewan government? (The article in November 1946 National Affairs Monthly will help to answer this question.)
5. What steps should be taken to elect a legislature truly representative of the people?
6. Is the LPP calling for the defeat of the CCF government?
7. Explain in your own words what is meant by the United Front.

Remember that all the literature referred to can be obtained from the party bookstores in Saskatoon and Regina.

IF THERE ARE ANY QUESTIONS THAT YOU CAN'T ANSWER IN YOUR CLUB DISCUSSION PLEASE WRITE US, AND WE WILL TRY TO HELP.

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#### AN EXPLANATION OF THE UNITED FRONT

The united front of labor and the people is the principal tactic of our Party in the fight for a socialist Canada.

This tactic flows out of our understanding of the irreconcilable character of the class struggle between the capitalist and the working class, a struggle which will end only when the state power of the capitalist class is broken and succeeded by the state power of the working class — the dictatorship of the proletariat. Such an objective can be achieved only by building up against the capitalists a force which will be so powerful that it cannot be successfully resisted. That force can only be the working class, together with its allies amongst the small farmers and city middle class people.

Obviously, we cannot wait until the eve of great revolutionary crises to create this force. We must begin to build it now. True the masses of Canadian workers are not yet ready to unite to fight for socialism, but they, together with large sections of farm and middle class people, can be united around those main immediate



issues on which Canadian monopoly capitalism threatens the best interests of the Canadian people—the issue of peace, the wage and price struggles, full employment, farm security, parity prices, democratic rights. On the main features of these issues, there is a broad measure of agreement; the problem is to bring large masses of people into action.

What will be gained by this united action for which we strive. First, the plans of the monopolists to find a temporary solution to the contradictions of their system in war and attacks on the standards of living of the people, will be blocked. This will heighten the crisis for the monopolists and make it much more difficult for them to continue to hold power. They will be unable to govern in the old way because of the intense contradictions of their system expressing themselves in new and worse depressions; they will find the united people blocking their efforts to govern in new ways, that is through fascism linked up with imperialist war.

Secondly, the people will learn through their own experience that united action does get results in terms of concrete victories in the wage and price struggles, but they will also learn that victories of this kind do not solve their problems which cannot be solved as long as we have the capitalist system. So the people will learn (with the help of our continual, patient explanation) both the need for socialism, and the means to achieve socialism—that is united struggle to smash the capitalist system.

It must be recognized that people's unity must be built on a solid foundation of working class unity, because the working class is the most revolutionary class in our society, the class which has "nothing to lose but its chains." At the same time, we seek also to bring into the struggle the allies of the working class, the farmers and small business men who are less revolutionary because they still feel that with their farm or little business they have a "stake" in capitalism, but who on the other hand, hate and fear the great monopolies who constantly threaten to drive them from their farms or out of business.

The fight to win labor and the people for united struggle against monopoly and finally for the establishment of socialism is a fight to win people to support the Labor-Progressive Party which alone stands for such policies. It must also therefore be a fight to isolate social reformists like the CCF leaders who carry the ideas of the capitalists into the working class, who deny the necessity of smashing the capitalist state, tell the people, in effect, that capitalism can be reformed, reject policies of united people's struggle, and place their reliance on the capitalist parliaments as the instruments which can carry through all necessary social change.

Our proposals for unity with the CCF do not envisage some sort of a compromise with the ideas of the social reformist leaders, which

would be a betrayal of Marxism. Rather we propose a united front with the CCF on a program of active struggle for objectives such as peace, higher wages, better farm prices, and so on, which express the desires of the great majority of the people who support the CCF. To the extent that the CCF accepts such proposals, to that extent do they abandon social reformism, and begin to follow the line of struggle of our Party. If they reject our proposals, they begin to expose themselves as people who are not really prepared to fight for the needs of the masses, and with this exposure CCF supporters will turn increasingly to our Party for leadership.

The united front cannot possibly be built unless the Party itself, the hard core of the united front, is built into a strong force and steps forward with great audacity into the centre of the stage of Canadian politics.

WHAT DIMITROFF SAID ABOUT THE FIGHT FOR THE UNITED FRONT IN COUNTRIES WHERE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS HOLD OFFICE:

"Our comrades in the Scandanavian countries often follow the line of least resistance, CONFINING THEMSELVES TO PROPAGANDA EXPOSING THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS. This is a mistake..... In countries having Social Democratic governments, the Communists ought to make use of appropriate individual demands taken from the platforms of the Social Democratic parties themselves and of the election promises of the Social Democratic ministers as the starting point for the realization of joint action with the Social-Democratic parties and organizations, so that they may afterwards the more easily develop a campaign for the establishment of a united front, but on the basis of other mass demands to be raised in the struggle against the offensive of capital, against fascism and the threat of war."

"It must further be borne in mind that if, in general, joint action with the Social Democratic Parties and organizations requires that the Communists exercise serious and substantial criticism of Social Democracy as the ideology and practice of class collaboration with the bourgeoisie (that is the capitalists), and untiringly explain to the Social-Democratic workers in a comradely way the program and slogans of Communism, in countries having Social-Democratic governments this task is of particular importance in the struggle for the united front."

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